REMARKS

Claims 2, 6, 9, and 11 are pending. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8, and 10 have been canceled. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 2, 5, 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Aritake patent in view of the admitted prior art. The applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Claim 2 has been amended to recite a plurality of depressions (See depressions 84 in the exemplary embodiment of Figs. 5, 6, 7 and depressions 90 in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 8). Thus, in claim 2, the sprue gates of the second plurality extend downwardly through the first plurality of protrusions adapted to form a plurality of depressions in the upper end of the bottom wall of the molded part of the door glass run. In addition, claim 2 recites that lower ends of the second plurality of sprue gates are located in the second plurality of protrusions (See protrusions 82 in Fig. 7, for example) and which protrude into a lower part of the mold cavity.

In the method of claim 2, the sprue gates of the second plurality extend downwardly through the first plurality of protrusions adapted to form a plurality of depressions in the upper end of the bottom wall of the molded part of the door glass run. Therefore, the sprue gates of the second plurality can extend to the vicinity of the lower part of the mold cavity, and the lower ends of the sprue gates of the second plurality can be positioned near the mold cavity and thus do not require long tab gates for connecting the lower ends of the sprue gates of the second plurality and the mold cavity, which have been required in conventional glass run molding. Therefore, the molding material can be smoothly injected into the mold cavity by way of the second plurality of

sprue gates, the required amount of molding material is decreased, and the cost of material is reduced.

In the step of opening the upper mold, the molding material is cut off at joints between the lower ends of the second plurality of sprue gates and the molded part. The lower ends of the second plurality of sprue gates are located in the protrusions, which project into the mold cavity, so that upon opening the upper mold, the lower ends of the second plurality of sprue gates are cut off from the molded bottom wall of the door glass run at joints located in the second plurality of protrusions of the mold. Consequently, the resultant molded bottom wall of the door glass run has recesses corresponding to the second plurality of protrusions. Accordingly, the resulting projections and tabs are located in the recesses without protruding outwardly from outer surfaces of the molded bottom wall. Thus, it is not necessary to cut projections or long tabs from the finished product, which reduces both the production costs and production time.

In addition, upon attaching of the door glass run to the door frame, the molded part of the door glass run can be attached securely and closely without exhibiting the problems encountered with the conventional method described in the present application (See page 9, line 7 through page 10, line4; page11, lines 9-18; and page 12 lines 17-21).

In addition, claim 2 recites that the lower ends of the second plurality of sprue gates are located in the second plurality of protrusions. This feature is not shown or suggested by the Aritake reference. Even if one considers the corners of the mold near the sprue gates in the Aritake reference to be protrusions, the ends of the sprue gates of Aritake are not located in the protrusions.

Further, claim 2 recites that the molding material passes through the protrusions. Again, the Aritake reference fails to disclose or suggest this feature.

The patent to Aritake ('514) shows two gates 25 and 26 in FIG. 3. However, the gates of Aritake are not for molding a door glass run, unlike the claimed invention. The Aritake method is for molding the opening trim by injecting different materials into different cavities of the mold at different times with the gates 25 and 26. The Aritake patent does not disclose the claimed mold configuration. As shown in FIG. 3, the injecting directions and injecting positions of the two gates 25 and 26 are completely different from those of claimed invention. In addition, the Aritake patent neither shows nor suggests the technique of preventing the formation of projections or long tabs in the molded part upon opening the mold.

The admitted prior art (FIG 3) shows a conventional mold configuration and fails to show or suggest the method of the present invention, in which protrusions of a first plurality of protrusions, which protrude into the mold cavity from positions adapted to mold an upper end of a bottom wall of a door glass run, and protrusions of a second plurality of protrusions, which protrude into a lower part of the mold cavity from positions adapted to mold a lower part of the bottom wall of the door glass run, are provided.

Neither the admitted prior art nor the Aritake patent discloses or suggests provision of sprue gates that extend downwardly through the first plurality of protrusions adapted to form the depressions in the upper end of the bottom wall of the molded part of the door glass run.

Also, neither the admitted prior art or the Aritake patent discloses or suggests provision of lower ends of a second plurality of sprue gates that are located in the second plurality of protrusions which protrude into a lower part of a mold cavity that is adapted to mold a lower part of a door glass run.

In addition, neither the admitted prior art or the Aritake patent discloses or suggests that mold material passes through the protrusions as claimed.

Therefore, even if the admitted prior art is combined with the Aritake patent, all the features of claim 2 would not appear in the resulting combination. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Aritake patent in view of the admitted prior art and Waid. The applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Claim 11 depends indirectly on claim 2 and is therefore considered to be patentable for the reasons given above with respect to claim 2.

Further, the Waid reference shows sprue holes 20 in FIG. 3, but the sprue holes 20 of Waid are not for molding a door glass run. The Waid method is for molding a large number of flash-free articles such as valve stems by injecting molding material into cavities C with the sprue holes 20 in a single molding operation. The Waid reference discloses in column 8 that upon opening of the mold, lower ends of the sprue holes 20 are severed from the cavity parts 45a. However, the mold of Waid does not have a protrusion that protrudes into the cavity part 45a and through which lower ends of the sprue holes 20 penetrate to open into the cavity part 45a. Therefore, after severing the lower ends of these sprue holes 20, projections remain in outer surfaces of the end portions 35 of the valve stems 25. As a result, the end portions 35 cannot have smooth outer surfaces, and the problem solved by the present invention is not addressed by the Waid reference. Therefore, the Waid reference fails to supply what is missing in the patent to Aritake and the admitted prior art, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

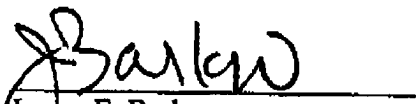
In an interview conducted on 29 November 2007, the applicants' representative discussed the novel protrusions with the examiner, and the possibility of amending the claims to recite that the sprue gates are located in the protrusions and that the molding material passes through the

protrusions was discussed. Although no agreement was reached, the examiner seemed to recognize that the method of claim 2, if amended as discussed, was significantly different from the prior art combination.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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